WEST LAFAYETTE TRAFFIC COMMISSION

WEST LAFAYETTE CITY BUILDING WEST LAFAYETTE, INDIANA

TIME:

5:00 pm, Tuesday, January 20, 2015

PLACE:

Morton Community Center

PRESENT:

Dave Buck

Vicki Burch

Karen O'Farrell

Chris Leroux

Doug Payne

Carrie Ehresman

Kumares Sinha

Andrew Hirsch

Jim Knapp

Eric Chin

Boudewijn van Gelder

VISITORS:

Erin Cooper

Ed Garrison

Zarjon Baha

Chairman Sinha brought the meeting to order at 5:00pm and determined there was a quorum.

Mr. Hirsch made a motion to re-elect Chairman Sinha to another term as chairman of the West Lafayette Traffic Commission. Ms. Burch seconded the motion and Chairman Sinha was re-elected.

Ms. Burch made a motion to approve the minutes from the November 18, 2014 meeting. Deputy Chief Leroux seconded the motion and the minutes were approved as written.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

Northwestern Ave. Updates:

Mr. Buck stated that construction was completed in the fall of 2014, however the contractors are still working on collecting data and adjusting signal timings.

Mr. Buck also stated that the City and Purdue are designing improvements from Dodge St. to Lindberg Rd. for the summer of 2015 as well as improvements at the following intersections: North St., Grant St., and Cherry Ln. on Northwestern Ave.

Mr. Hirsch asked what updates were discussed for Cherry Ln. and Northwestern to which Mr. Buck responded that the improvement would include updating the traffic signal, as well as making the intersection more pedestrian friendly.

Parking in Sunset Ridge Subdivision:

Professor van Gelder came before the commission to discuss a parking issue within the Sunset Ridge Subdivision. Professor van Gelder stated that being so close to campus, and with the cost of parking in the faculty parking garage, faculty and students have started parking in the subdivision and walking to campus, thus creating problems within the subdivision when it comes to leaf removal, snow removal, and mail delivery.

Professor van Gelder then proposed to amend the City Ordinance to state that the public should not be allowed to park 20 ft on either side of the mailbox. Professor van Gelder also suggested that the street department paint the curb yellow. Mr. Buck stated that he would review the City Ordinance and see what it would take to amend the ordinance so that you could not block a mailbox with your vehicle.

NEW BUSINESS:

Two hour parking on Russell St. & Waldron St.:

Mr. Zarjon Baha came before the commission to request two hour parking on Russell St. and Waldron St. Currently, there is 24 hour parking on Russell St. & Waldron St.

Mr. Payne stated that some of the parking on Russell is used by the cooks and waiting staff that work nearby because there isn't enough parking spaces to accommodate the area therefore implementing two hour parking on these streets would put a restraint on the daily routine of the people that need to park there while they work.

Deputy Chief Leroux stated that quite a few of the facilities did not have sufficient parking, but were grandfathered in due to their age, and that is the reason why there is no time limit parking in those areas.

Chairman Sinha then thanked Mr. Zarjon Baha for bringing this matter to our attention and said we would take the suggestion under advisement.

Governors Highway Safety Association report on bicyclist fatalities:

Mr. Andrew Hirsch came before the commission to present a bicyclist fatalities report conducted by the Governors Highway Safety Associations. Mr. Hirsch suggested the traffic commission review the report as we continue to integrate bike plans in the City of West Lafayette.

Mid-Block Crossing – Grant St. at Young Hall to Wood St. Parking Garage:

Mr. Buck stated that he received an email from commission member Anne Brown about the possibility of adding a mid-block crossing to Grant St. at Young Hall and the Wood St. Parking Garage. Mr. Buck stated that the location has had more pedestrian traffic due to Young Hall changing from a graduate house to an office. Mr. Buck also stated that since there is not a consistent high volume of pedestrians all day long, that the commission just encourage the students/faculty to utilize the existing tunnel to cross the street.

With no other business before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned.

NEXT MEETING: 5:00 pm, Tuesday, May 19th, 2015, Morton Community Center, Room 211.

Respectfully Submitted,

Dul. Pele

David M. Buck, P.E.

Public Works Director

DMB/ec